

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1225

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to recognize Jerry Clift on the occasion of his retirement as Trousdale County Executive.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to our fellow Tennesseans who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm in the realm of public service; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Clift is one such estimable person who has served with distinction as Trousdale County Executive, or Mayor, since 2002, in which position he has worked with purpose and conviction to make Trousdale County an even better place to live; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clift will be taking a much deserved retirement from public office at the conclusion of his term this year; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Clift was born the middle child of five to William and Ravenell Clift in Nashville; the family moved to Hartsville in the mid-1960s and operated the popular Pioneer Kitchen in Dixon Springs; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Trousdale County High School, Mr. Clift earned an Associate of Arts degree from Cumberland University; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Clift helped his family run Pioneer Kitchen until his parents retirement, at which time he operated the business until the 1980s, when he established a small grocery store in Hartsville; and

WHEREAS, wholly committed to the ideals of civic involvement and public service, Mr. Clift successfully sought the office of Trousdale County Executive in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Clift has rendered meritorious service to his fellow citizens, and his outstanding record includes the construction of the new Senior Center, successful negotiations with Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) to build a facility in Trousdale County, and

opposing the building of a uranium enrichment plant in Hartsville at the request of the citizens of Trousdale County; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Clift has also served as an esteemed member of the Greater Nashville Regional Council, Mid Cumberland Human Resource Agency, Hartsville Senior Center Advisory Board, and Trousdale County Commission Chairman; and

WHEREAS, an untiring supporter of Trousdale County, Mayor Clift is a member of the Hartsville-Trousdale County Chamber of Commerce, the Health Council, and expertly handles the cooking duties for the annual luncheon at Stratton Bone's Barn and at the annual fundraising event for the Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, a thirty-year cancer survivor, he is also an enthusiastic participant in the annual Relay for Life event; and

WHEREAS, his many personal and professional accomplishments aside, Jerry Clift is fortunate to share love and companionship with his wife of forty-three years, Sandy Gammons Clift; his son, Jerry William Clift; and his treasured grandchildren, Ryan and KaSandra Clift; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clift is an active and devout member of East Main Church, which he has served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Clift exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Clift has compiled a singular record during his exemplary career in county government, and he should be specially recognized on the occasion of his retirement from public service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Jerry Clift on his outstanding service to the people of Trousdale County and Tennessee as Trousdale County Executive, and wish this distinguished gentleman all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.